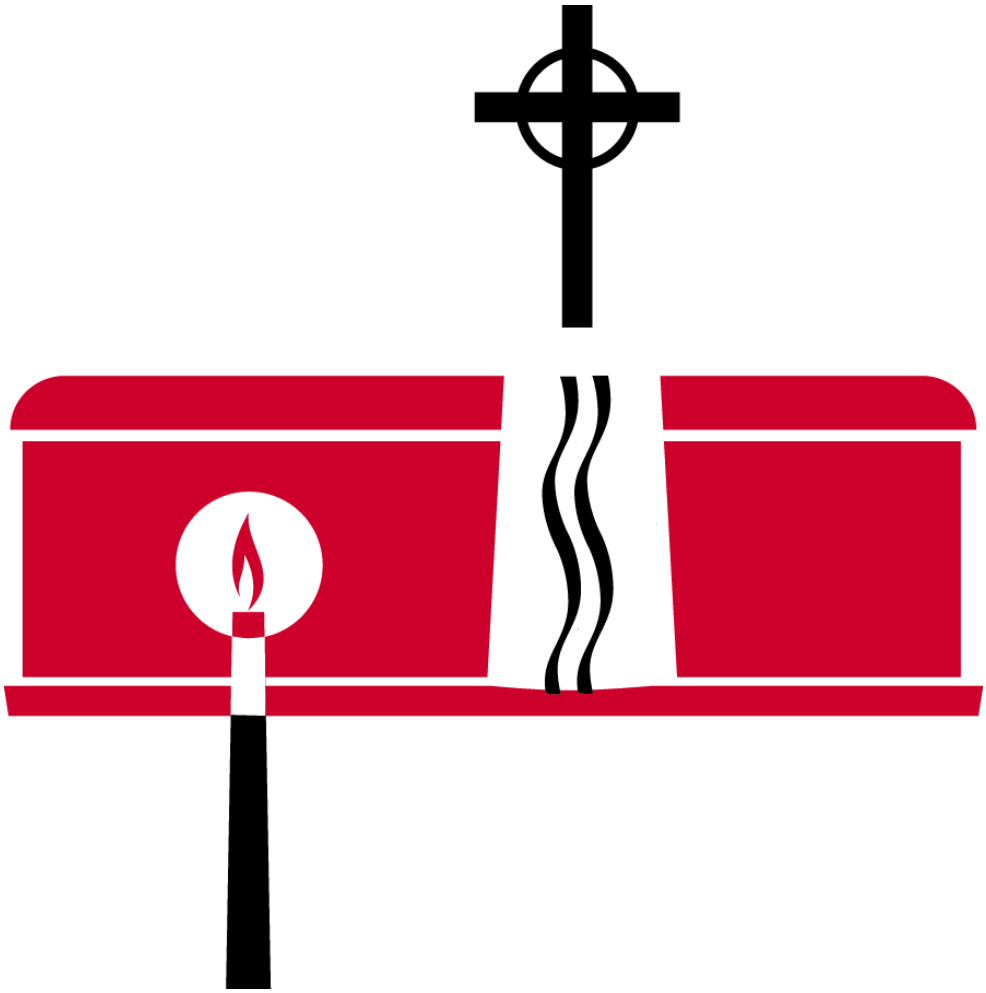
Memorial Service for Virginia Basler

A celebration of life and witness to the resurrection.



May 25, 2024 – 11:00am
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Ypsilanti, MI

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit, the comforter, gathers us in worship.

COMMEMORATION PROCESSIONAL

Wind Beneath My Wings
Rosie the Riveter Color Guard

INTRODUCTION

Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our sister Virginia, to give thanks for her life, to commend her to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

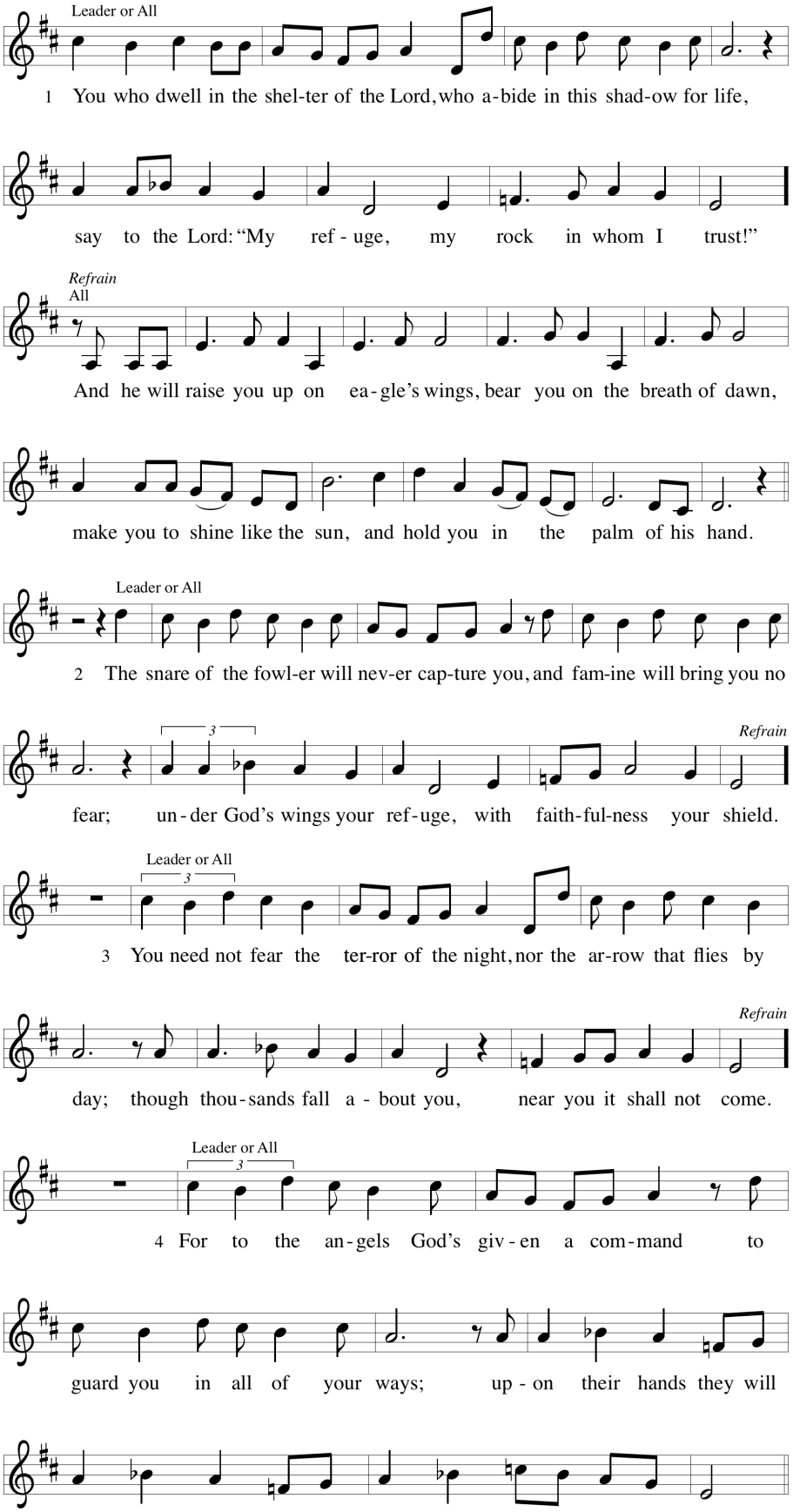
Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.
We glorify you.

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.
We praise you.

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.
We worship you.

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever.
Amen.

PROCESSIONAL SONG - *On Eagle's Wings*


Leader or All
1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this shad-ow for life,
say to the Lord: "My ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"
Refrain
All
And he will raise you up on ea - gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.
Leader or All
2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no
Refrain
fear; un - der God's wings your ref - uge, with faith-ful-ness your shield.
Leader or All
3 You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the ar-row that flies by
Refrain
day; though thou - sands fall a - bout you, near you it shall not come.
Leader or All
4 For to the an - gels God's giv - en a com - mand to
guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will
bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

Final refrain
All
And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.
And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1957
Music: ON EAGLE'S WINGS, Michael Joncas
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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister Virginia. We thank you for giving her to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

REMEMBRANCES

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

ECCLESIASTES 3:1-8

A Reading from Ecclesiastes.

[1]For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:
[2]a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
[3]a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
[4]a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
[5]a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
[6]a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
[7]a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
[8]a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

PSALM: Psalm 121

A reading from Psalm.

[1]I lift up my eyes to the hills — from where will my help come?
[2]**My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**
[3]He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.
[4]**He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**
[5]The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
[6]**The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**
[7]The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
[8]**The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.**

GOSPEL: John 14:25-27

A reading from John.

25 I have said these things to you while I am still with you. 26 But the Advocate,
the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you
everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. 27 Peace I leave with
you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let
your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

SERMON — Rev. Joshua Rinas

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY - *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright
saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to
now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

CREED

The Apostles' Creed may be spoken.

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's Creed.
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together into one communion of saints in the body of Christ.

Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give courage and faith to all who mourn, and a sure and certain hope in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that, where this world groans in grief and pain, your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Help us, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

The presiding minister may introduce the Lord's Prayer.

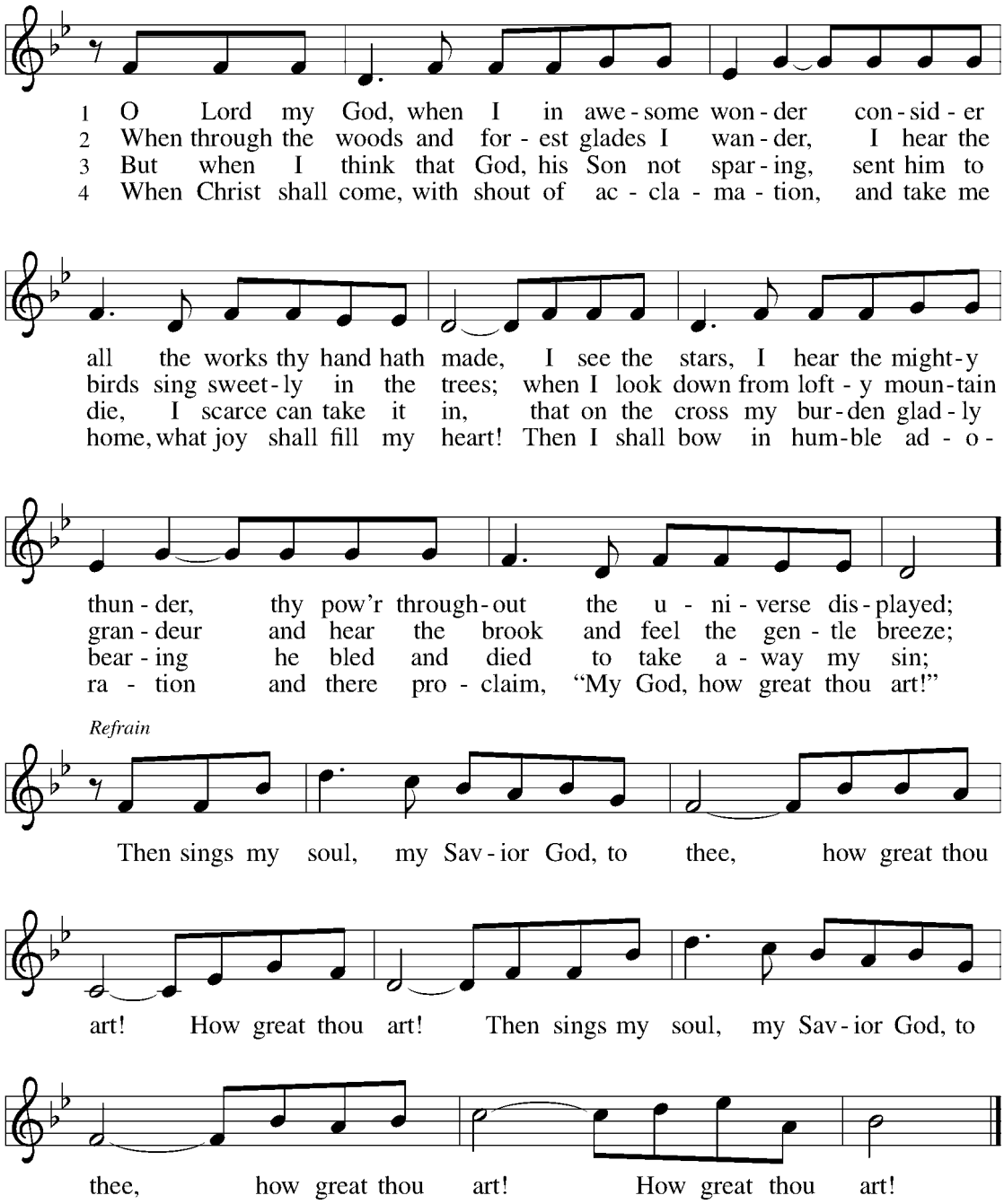
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

COMMENDATION

SENDING HYMN - *How Great Thou Art*


1 O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me
all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun - tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -
thun - der, thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"
Refrain
Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou
art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to
thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in peace,

in the name of Christ. Amen.

Virginia (Hines) Basler
May 27, 1923 – April 14, 2024

Many are mourning the passing of Virginia Hines Basler on April 14, 2024. Just shy of her 101st birthday, Virginia was born on May 27, 1923 in Alpena, Michigan to George and Eva (Dent) Hines. She had two siblings, an older sister, Jean Hines O'Neill, and a younger brother, James Arden Hines.

Virginia never graduated from high school, taking a job at the Alpena Pup Tent Company where she made "button holes" for pole supports. Not long after that employment, Virginia and her best friend moved to Ypsilanti to work at the famous Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant to "make more money" than they had earned while working on tents! At Willow Run, she drilled holes for the rivets and always considered herself to be the "best hole maker in the world," certainly based on both of those unique occupations. Virginia was very proud of being a Rosie the Riveter, doing her part to help end World War II with her service on the Home Front.

In April of 1945, she enlisted in the US Coast Guard (USCG) Women's Reserve, known as the SPARS because she was "21, eligible, and liked those classy uniforms!" Her SPARS uniform can be seen at the Ypsilanti Historical Museum. Virginia was trained as a baker and worked as a ship's cook, earning the rank of 1st class, 3 stripes. (The Veterans History Project interview of Virginia, archived at the US Library of Congress, can be viewed at: Veterans History Project Collection, Yankee Air Museum/Library of Congress and searching for #117785.)

She returned to Ypsilanti after her war service and worked at Kaiser-Frazer. She married Leonard Basler on April 12, 1952. He had served our country as a Marine, stationed in the Aleutian Islands and earned a Purple Heart for his wounds. He preceded her in death in 1977. They had three children, Arden Marian, Charles Leonard and Helen Marie.

A long time resident of Ypsilanti, Virginia was employed by the Ypsilanti Public Schools as a cook. In retirement, she enthusiastically volunteered with the Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels for 30 years. That organization honored her years of volunteerism by naming their van after her. Virginia was very active with the Thrift Shop, the Senior Citizens Center, and was a dedicated member of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church. As an energetic member of the American Rosie the Riveter Association (ARRA), Virginia was a highly sought-after "Original Rosie." She participated in two Honor Flights to the World War II Memorial in Washington, DC and, in 2022, she represented all military women of the "Greatest Generation" as a special guest at the National Memorial Day Concert in DC. Virginia was proud of her WWII Victory Medal and is a recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal for her service as a Rosie. Unfortunately, declining health made it impossible for her to travel to DC for the recent award ceremony.

She was preceded in death by her parents, George and Eva Hines; her husband, Leonard Basler; and her daughter, Helen Basler.

Virginia is survived by her children, Arden Basler and Charles Basler; her granddaughter, Kami Basler (Samuel Stanley); her brother, James (Janet) Hines; her sister-in-law, Mildred Basler; and numerous loving nieces and nephews.

Memorial Gathering will take place on Friday, May 24, 2024 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 201 N. River Street, Ypsilanti, between 11:00 am until 1:00 pm or between 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm. Funeral Service will be held on Saturday, May 25, 2024 at 11:00 am at Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to the Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels, Senior Citizens Center, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, or the American Rosie the Riveter Association.

SERVING IN WORSHIP:

Interim Pastor.....Rev. Joshua Rinas
Organist.....David Meitzler
Remembrances.....Claire Dahl
Patricia Dignan
Monica Prince
Processional.....Jeanette Guiterrez & the ARRA, Color Guard

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